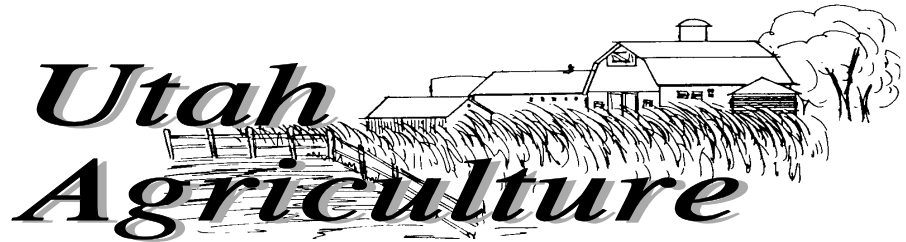




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USDA, NASS, Utah Field Office
P.O. Box 25007
Salt Lake City, UT 84125-0007
Phone: 801-524-5003
WEB Page: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ut/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



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Monthly Report

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Utah Sheep and Lamb Losses 2006

UTAH: Farmers and ranchers lost 46,000 sheep and lambs to all causes in 2006. This was valued at \$3.9 million. Lambs lost before docking totaled 15,000, lambs lost after docking totaled 18,000 and sheep one year old and older lost totaled 13,000. Coyotes accounted for 43.3 percent of all lambs lost before docking, at 6,500 head. This accounted for the largest single cause of death in lambs before docking. Coyotes also accounted for the largest number of lambs lost after docking at 8,300, 46.1 percent of the after docking loss. Sheep one year old and older losses to coyotes, at 2,600, was the single largest cause, accounting for 20.0 percent. Total losses to coyotes equaled 17,400 head, which was 37.8 percent of all losses to sheep and lambs in the state.

Planting Intentions

UTAH: Farm operators, as of March 1, 2007 intend to plant more acres of corn, winter wheat, barley, and dry beans, and planned to plant fewer acres of spring wheat. Intentions for hay harvested are up 10,000 acres from last year with oats remaining the same as last year. Corn acres planted are expected to be 66,000, up 1,000 acres from the previous year. All wheat intentions were estimated at 147,000 acres, 3,000 acres more than last year. Winter wheat plantings are at 135,000 acres, 5,000 acres more than the previous year. Spring wheat planting is expected to total 12,000 acres, down 2,000 acres from the previous year's level. If current growers intentions are realized, Utah farmers will plant 45,000 acres of oats, remaining the same as last year. Barley intentions at 45,000 acres, increased 5,000 acres from last year. Planting intentions for dry edible beans are 3,500 acres, an increase of 500 acres from last year. Harvesting intentions for all hay are 720,000 acres, a 10,000 acre increase from last year.

UNITED STATES: **Corn** growers intend to plant 90.5 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2007, up 15 percent from 2006 and 11 percent higher than 2005. If realized this would be the highest acreage since 1944, when 95.5 million acres were planted for all purposes. Expected acreage is up in nearly all States as high corn prices are encouraging farmers to plant more acres to corn. The increase in intended corn acres is partially offset by lower expected acres of soybeans in the Corn Belt and Great Plains and fewer expected acres of cotton and rice in the Delta and Southeast. **All wheat** planted area is estimated at 60.3 million acres, up 5 percent from 2006. The 2007 winter wheat planted area, at 44.5 million acres, is 10 percent above last year and up 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 31.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.66 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.92 million acres are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2007 is expected to total 13.8 million acres, down 7 percent from 2006. Of this total, about 13.3 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. The intended Durum planted area for 2007 is 1.99 million acres, up 6 percent from the previous year. **Oats:** Acres seeded and to be seeded for the 2007 crop year are expected to total 4.03 million acres, down 3 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the lowest planted acreage on record. Area planted to oats is expected to decrease or remain unchanged in 20 States, including most States in the northern and central Rocky Mountains, central Corn Belt, and the Ohio Valley. **Barley:** Growers intend to plant 3.70 million acres for 2007, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the second lowest barley planted acreage on record. **Dry Beans:** Growers intend to plant 1.50 million acres in 2007, down 8 percent from both last year and 2005. The decrease in planted acres can be attributed in part to strong prices for competing crops. Expected plantings for all chickpeas totals 125,500 acres, down 8 percent from 2006 but 40 percent above two years ago. Small chickpea acreage is expected to be 2 percent below last year but 62 percent above 2005. Large chickpeas are expected to decline 9 percent from 2007 but increase 37 percent from two years ago. Small chickpeas are defined as peas that will pass through a 20/64 inch round hole screen. Acreage declines are expected in 12 of the 18 dry bean estimating States.

Livestock Slaughter

UTAH: Commercial red meat production totaled 34.2 million pounds in February 2007, down 13.6 percent from February of the previous year. **Cattle slaughter** in Utah for February 2007 totaled 43.0 head, 14.9 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was 1,294 pounds, up 13 pounds from February 2006. **Hog slaughter** totaled 3,200 head, up 33.3 percent from the previous year. The average live weight was 178 pounds, down 46 pounds from the previous year. **Sheep and lamb slaughter** during February 2007 totaled 2,600 head, up 4 percent from the previous year. Average live weight, at 137 pounds, was down 10 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in February, up 4 percent from the 3.49 billion pounds produced in February 2006. **Beef production**, at 1.95 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, up 9 percent from February 2006. The average live weight was down 10 pounds from the previous year, at 1,274 pounds. **Veal production** totaled 12.2 million pounds, 7 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,900 head, up 27 percent from February 2006. The average live weight was down 50 pounds from last year, at 307 pounds. **Pork production** totaled 1.64 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.12 million head, down slightly from February 2006. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 269 pounds. **Lamb and mutton production**, at 14.4 million pounds,

was down 2 percent from February 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 204,400 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 4 pounds from February a year ago. **January to February 2007 commercial red meat production** was 7.7 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was up 14 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter,

February 2006-2007 ¹

Item	Utah		United States	
	February		February	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Production (Million Pounds)				
Red Meat	39.6	34.2	2,489.9	3,615.6
Number Slaughtered (Thousand Head)				
Cattle	50.5	43.0	2,346.6	2,561.7
Calves	1	1	52.7	66.9
Hogs	2.4	3.2	8,055.6	8,117.0
Sheep & Lamb	2.5	2.6	202.2	204.4
Average Live Weight (Pounds)				
Cattle	1,281	1,294	1,284	1,274
Calves	1	1	357	307
Hogs	224	178	271	269
Sheep & Lamb	147	137	144	140

¹ Missing data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Utah Grain Stocks

UTAH: March 1, 2007 corn stocks were higher at off-farm locations in Utah than the previous year, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. All wheat, oats and barley at off-farm locations in Utah were lower than on March 1, 2006. Off farm all wheat stocks on March 1, 2007 were 5.35 million bushels in Utah, down 10 percent from the previous year. Utah off farm corn stocks were 1, 228,000 bushels, up 14 percent from March 1, 2006. Off farm barley stocks, at 187,000 bushels, were down 54.8 percent from last March. Off farm oat stocks on March 1, 2007 were 34,000 bushels, down 29.2 percent from 2006.

UNITED STATES: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 6.07 billion bushels, down 13 percent from March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks, 3.33 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.74 billion bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 2.86 billion bushels, compared with 2.83 billion bushels during the same period last year. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 856 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 192 million bushels, down 25 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 663 million bushels, are down 7 percent from a year ago. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance is 459 million bushels, up slightly from the same period a year earlier. **Barley** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 117 million bushels, down 30 percent from March 1, 2006. On-farm stocks are estimated at 38.3 million bushels, 44 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 78.9 million bushels, are 20 percent below March 2006. The December 2006 - February 2007 indicated disappearance totaled 55.7 million bushels, 35 percent above the same period a year earlier. **Oats** stored in all positions on March 1, 2007 totaled 71.0 million bushels, 5 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2006. Of the total stocks on hand, 33.9 million bushels are stored on farms, down 20 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 37.1 million bushels, up 14 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2006 - February 2007 totaled 27.9 million bushels, up 34 percent from the same period a year ago.

Agricultural Prices

Utah: Mid-March 2007 prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers for baled alfalfa hay was \$113.00 per ton, up \$6.00 from last month, and \$17.00 higher than last year. Other hay, at \$87.00 per ton, was up \$6.00 from February 2007, and was \$2.00 higher than March 2006. Barley was \$3.94 per bushel for the month of March 2007, up 3 cents from the previous month.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 133 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (3.9 percent) from February. The Crop Index is up 6 points (4.3 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 5 points (4.2 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, lettuce, oranges, and broilers. Lower prices were received for strawberries, celery, corn, and hogs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of strawberries, broilers, and milk offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, and corn. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (18 percent) from March 2006. The Food Commodities Index, at 134, increased 6 points (4.7 percent) from last month and increased 19 points (17 percent) from March 2006.

Average Prices Received by Farmers ¹

Commodity	Utah						United States					
	Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled		Barley		Alfalfa Hay, Baled		Other Hay, Baled	
Month	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	(2)	3.65	95.00	105.00	80.00	79.00	2.42	3.03	96.40	115.00	84.30	102.00
February	2.11	3.91	100.00	107.00	85.00	81.00	2.57	3.10	99.20	117.00	83.20	105.00
March	2.17	3.94	96.00	113.00	85.00	87.00	2.71	3.27	100.00	120.00	86.60	108.00
April	2.29		106.00		90.00		2.67		110.00		93.20	
May	2.20		98.00		77.00		2.96		118.00		96.80	
June	(2)		99.00		87.00		2.78		115.00		90.10	
July	2.36		104.00		80.00		2.70		113.00		89.30	
August	2.39		105.00		81.00		2.70		110.00		91.50	
September	2.58		95.00		71.00		2.56		112.00		93.00	
October	2.95		99.00		71.00		2.76		112.00		93.80	
November	2.72		99.00		75.00		2.92		109.00		98.10	
December	3.40		105.00		79.00		2.95		112.00		99.30	

¹ February 2007 is mid-month price.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTIC SERVICE
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Manufactured Dairy Products

UTAH: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) in January 2007 was at 8.6 million pounds, 2.2 percent above December 2006, and 70.5 percent above January 2006. **Hard ice cream** production at 1.8 million gallons was 11.4 percent above December 2006, and was 16.3 percent above January 2006.

UNITED STATES: **Total cheese** output (excluding cottage cheese) was 824 million pounds, 6.7 percent above January 2006 but 0.8 percent below December 2006. **Italian type cheese** production totaled 350 million pounds, 6.6 percent above January 2006 but 1.0 percent below December 2006. **American type cheese** production totaled 343 million pounds, 5.6 percent above January 2006 and 1.0 percent above December 2006. **Butter** production was 151 million pounds, 2.5 percent above January 2006 and 10.0 percent above December 2006. **Hard ice cream** production at 62.0 million gallons, was up 0.3 percent from January 2006, and up 22.8 from December 2006.

Manufactured Dairy Production - January 2006-2007 with Comparisons

Product	Utah			United States		
	January 2006	December ¹ 2006	January 2007	January 2006	December ¹ 2006	January 2007
1,000 Pounds						
Total Cheese	5,015	8,368	8,552	772,337	830,146	823,830
1,000 Gallons						
Hard ice cream	1,505	1,571	1,750	61,826	50,475	62,004

¹ Revised.